

Applicants: Mathur, et al.
Serial No.: 09/202,681
Filed: December 23, 1999
Page 2

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 5, 10 and 11 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide selected from:
- (a) a polynucleotide encoding a thermostable phosphatase comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:28;
 - (b) a polynucleotide which is complementary to the polynucleotide of (a); and
 - (c) a polynucleotide comprising at least 15 contiguous bases in length and that identifies a polynucleotide of (a) or (b) that encodes a polypeptide having activity as a thermostable phosphatase by hybridizing thereto.
2. (Twice Amended) An isolated polynucleotide selected from:
- (a) SEQ ID NO:19;
 - (b) SEQ ID NO:19, where T can also be U; and
 - (c) fragments of a) or b) that are at least 15 contiguous bases in length and that specifically identify a DNA which encodes an enzyme having thermostable phosphatase activity by hybridizing to the DNA, wherein the isolated polynucleotide of (a) or (b) encodes a thermostable phosphatase, or an enzymatically active fragment thereof.

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Serial No.: 09/202,681
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Page 3

5. (Twice Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a member selected from:
- (a) a polynucleotide having at least 70% identity to a polynucleotide encoding an enzyme encoded by the DNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97379, wherein said enzyme is obtained from *Ammonifex degenesii* KC4 and encodes a thermostable phosphatase;
 - (b) a polynucleotide complementary to the polynucleotide of (a); and
 - (c) a polynucleotide comprising at least 15 contiguous bases in length and that identifies a polynucleotide of (a) or (b) that encodes a polynucleotide having thermostable phosphatase activity by hybridizing thereto.

10. (Twice Amended) A thermostable phosphatase of which at least a portion is encoded by a polynucleotide of (a) or (b) of claim 1, and which is selected from:
- (c) a thermostable phosphatase comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 70% identical to an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:28; and
 - (d) a thermostable phosphatase which comprises at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of the enzyme of (c).

11. (Twice Amended) An enzyme of which at least a portion is encoded by a polynucleotide of (a) or (b) of claim 1, and which is selected from:
- (c) a thermostable phosphatase comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group of amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:28; and
 - (d) a thermostable phosphatase which comprises at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of the enzyme of (c).